

## CHATTANOOGA NEWS

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That Albanian offensive seems to be a growing proposition. Likewise a going proposition.

We hear again that Bulgaria is tired of the war. But the war is hardly through with Bulgaria yet.

Little by little, we seem to be getting away from that fantastical scheme of a military invasion of Russia.

Sagely remarks the Jacksonville Times-Union: "It is much easier to get into trouble than to get out of it."

Petrograd has discovered a worse scourge than the bolshevik. It is being paid a visit by a cholera epidemic.

Mr. Kitchin's charge of newspaper lobbying seems to resolve itself into a question of what is meant by the term.

Maybe the food administration has figured that marking up the price a peg or two would help in the process of rationing sugar.

It is stated that the kaiser fears only one man—Maximilian Harden. He is also thought to maintain some respect for Foch.

Allied activities daily become more animated on the west front which now extends practically from the English channel to Salonica.

Lloyd George has an altogether more comfy feeling since that 1,000,000 Americans arrived. And there are others on the way.

Our friends in Alabama must not make the mistake of running more than one ratificationist candidate in each legislative district.

It is noteworthy that the crops in the central empire this year have not been pointed to as evidence that "me and Gott" are still partners.

Editor Black, of the Johnson City Staff, thinks it would be well to make sure of your winter's coal before worrying about your Christmas shopping.

Brazil and Peru have adopted the principle of compulsory arbitration of issues between the two countries. Perhaps this might be termed a victory of peace.

Mock marriages may easily have a serious side. This fact should be impressed upon those who participate in such pastime in a way that will cause them to remember it.

Capt. Amundsen is arranging to take another trip into arctic. Perhaps with a view to taking one more last lingering look for Admiral Peary's Crocker land.

Some idea of the internal situation in Germany may be had from the story that school children are compelled to spend their vacation in gathering leaves for hay.

Report of the death of Von Hindenburg may or may not be exaggerated, but the exaggeration of his threatened renewal of the drive into France seems very well established.

A few years ago, Martindale's directory of lawyers got mixed up with a gubernatorial campaign in Tennessee. This year it is being invoked in a judge's race in the Second Judicial circuit.

Blame for that horrible wreck butchery near Nashville a few days ago will apparently be fixed on a man who perished in it. It frequently happens that way. Dead men tell no tales and can't argue back.

Coal operators take a decidedly different view of the booze proposition from Mr. Hurley and Mr. Colby. According to the former, it is a question of doing without liquor or doing without coal which confronts the country.

Is the report of damage by storms to the coffee crop in Brazil a prelude to a raise in the price of this stimulating beverage crop which has heretofore remained so steadfastly democratic since the war began?

Belgium's king and queen are now numbered among the high-fliers. Their latest find was to hitch up their family airplane and take a spin across the "channel," calling on the royal English household on the trip.

German papers affect to doubt Secretary Baker's "recitations" about the number of troops sent across. But in this country, neither the colonel nor Senator Chamberlain has disputed the figures.

JULY 14, 1789.

It has been said that the shot fired at Lexington on April 19, 1775, was "heard round the world." That anniversary is one of those that has become memorable. Another is tomorrow, the anniversary of the storming of the Bastille by the French mob on July 14, 1789. There were but few prisoners in the old dungeon, and a mob of less than seven hundred took part in the attack, but it was the first overt act against the court party, and Louis XVI's doom was sealed, and the down-fall of the system he represented became certain.

When the king was told of the event, he said: "It is revolt." "No sire," one of his courtiers corrected, "it is revolution."

And so it was. Autocracy had sinned away its days of grace in France. The baptism of blood, and the reign of terror were to follow, and then the sturdy little figure of the Corsican corporal appeared at the head of his artillery, gave his order to mow down the mob in the streets of Paris, and France gave up the liberty which she had, like the Russia of today, metamorphosed into license. And then there passed before the mind's eye the battlefields of Marengo, and Austerlitz, and Jena, and Leipzig, and many others and finally the charge of the "old guard" at Waterloo, and then St. Helena.

France had to suffer at the hands of an obdurate coalition the restoration of the Bourbons, but the seeds of human freedom fructified finally in the constitutional monarchy of Louis Philippe, then in the rule of another Napoleon, able in many respects but too ambitious and vain, and finally in the glorious republic which breathes the spirit of Lafayette.

Tomorrow is Bastille day, celebrated in all free countries of the world in honor of La Belle France. It is a day which, with that of our own independence, rouses the finest sentiments in the lover of human rights.

## WOULD GIVE UP BELGIUM.

According to the statement made by Chancellor Von Hertling before the reichstag, Germany does not intend to retain Belgium. He declares it is now held as a pawn to trade with. This is no new position of the imperial German government. Von Bethmann-Hollweg during his chancellorship went this far. It has never, however, been made plain what Germany means by expressing willingness to retire from Belgium. Are there any strings tied to it? Will the junkers be willing to surrender Antwerp as a port? Will an insistence be made that the country be divided between the Flemings and the Walloons? And how about the repair of damages? Shall what the old chancellor admitted as a grievous wrong, and one for which he promised reparation, go unpunished? If the conspirators at Potsdam have been convinced that they can't get away with their booty the world might listen to any plea they would make for a light sentence, but one of the first terms of peace must be that justice be done the little land which suffered first and has suffered most.

Giving up Belgium is a beginning, and Lloyd George, who with Mr. Asquith has constantly said he would consider peace terms, and the president, who has reiterated his invitation to the enemy to speak, may ask what else?

Belgium is of great importance, but there are other matters which will demand settlement. We cannot permit a peace made at the expense of the east. All the work done at Brest-Litovsk must be undone and subjected to new scrutiny, so that the same principles shall apply all over the world and the peace be permanent.

Von Hertling's statement, coming after the resignation of Von Kuehlmann, leaves us in some doubt as to what really is in the enemy's mind. The delay in the expected offensive also is significant. Is it, indeed, evidence that the truth stated by the late foreign secretary has at last sunk in the German mind? They have removed him, but perhaps heed his warning.

Chickens sometimes go home to roost. Inhabitants of Baden have suddenly discovered that aerial bombardment of communities behind the zones of military operations serve no military purpose and that innocent women and children are the sufferers. This is quite true, but it would probably have required a good many years for Baden to find it out if the raids had been confined to London and Paris.

Today the report comes that Hindenburg is dead. Rumors are flying thick and fast in this period of the war. Only a short time since, it will be remembered, we had positive reports of the assassination of the emperor; of his son; of the overthrow of the Moscow government and restoration of the Romanoffs. The report as to Hindenburg may or may not be true. He is quite an old man. He is said to have quarreled with the kaiser and to have died of an apoplectic stroke. His demise would be a blow to the German military staff. His name has become one to conjure with in Germany. Ludendorff is said to be really the brains of the staff, but Hindenburg's powerful figure appeals more to the masses.

Von Bernstorff bought a New York newspaper at a good price. There are innumerable newspapers in other parts of the country which were slighted. Even the purchase of the Mail didn't get any results for the kaiser. The editors found the public wouldn't stand for the propaganda of the fatherland type.

The Smiths are very much to the fore in the senatorial discussion of the taking over of the telephones and telegraphs; senators by that name from Michigan, South Carolina and Georgia taking part.

Billy Possum ought to be decorated for the weather he is giving us.

## BURBANK'S NEW WHEAT.

Perhaps it is the hysteria of war time that makes it so easy for us to be "taken in" by hoaxes such as Garabed, sinkless ships, consumption cures and the like, but Luther Burbank has established a reputation as a scientific plant hybridizer which entitles him to a hearing. Whenever, therefore, Burbank declares that he has developed a variety of wheat which will produce thirty-five to forty-five bushels of good grain to the acre, the statement is bound to awaken more or less interest. And that is what he claims to have done.

America's average wheat production runs from ten to fifteen bushels to the acre. In England the yield is thirty-six and in Germany forty-two. These figures may serve to indicate the acute interest which now and more prolific varieties of wheat should have for Americans. In Europe much larger quantities of fertilizer are said to be used than in the case in this country, but whether the disparity in yield is due to this fact, to seed selection or to methods of cultivation is not known. Perhaps it is due in certain measure to all three.

Wheat production has recently been of very special interest in this country and is likely to continue to be. Our division of bread with those who are fighting the war in Europe has brought the issue home to us in a peculiarly personal sense. The size of the crop is no longer merely a matter of interest as affecting the fortunes of those who speculate in the Chicago wheat pit, but as it determines the more vital question of whether we shall have bread. Wheatless days, as nothing else could, give us an appreciation of the problem of wheat growing.

There is much for Americans to learn about farming and many other matters, but they are learning the lessons. Lands must be reclaimed and improved instead of being continually depleted. Intensive instead of expansive methods must prevail if production keeps pace with demand. But all this is coming. Preparations are already under way whereby necessary supplies of nitrates and potash are to be developed at home instead of depending on importations from Chile and Germany. These facilities are destined to affect American agriculture most profoundly.

In the meantime, Mr. Burbank's new wheat will be tested, and it will require a few years to accumulate a quantity for seed and to give it a thorough trial.

## "STORE DOOR DELIVERY"

Apparently just to show that it is still on the map, the Interstate Commerce commission has announced a new departure in freight handling which it will inaugurate in New York next month. The scheme is what is termed "store door freight delivery," and comprehends a system of dry delivery of freight as fast as it arrives at the depots and terminals. This is intended to prevent congestion of undelivered freight and it is thought will greatly increase the railroad's freight handling capacity. The plan is described in a recent issue of the New York Tribune, as follows:

"Under the new system there will be a drayage director appointed by the director-general of railroads. Under him will be supervisors. Truckmen will be licensed, and must comply with the regulations established by the drayage director. The city south of Fifty-ninth street is to be divided into trucking or delivery zones. Incoming freight will be unloaded on the cars, thus doing away with the need to unload it directly into trucks. There will not be the usual notice to consignees to come to get their freight. Instead it will be hauled to them and offered at their usual place of receipt, thus doing away with the 'free time' in cars or on piers. Salaries of the drayage director and his assistants will be paid by the carriers on a basis to be arranged by them and the drayage director. Trucking charges will be borne by the consignees, at rates to be fixed by the drayage director."

This will promote the prompt moving of cars which are sometimes delayed because there is no storage room in the depot to receive their contents when unloaded. It will also enable consignees to fix responsibility for damage to goods since the freight and drays are, by this method, combined, whereas heretofore they were operated under different managements, each eager to put blame for damage on the other.

Commissioner Harlan is given credit for the new scheme, and he has indicated that it may be expanded by using the trucks or drays to collect outgoing freight for shipment as well as to distribute incoming freight to consignees. This, it seems, would greatly simplify the service and at the same time make it more economical by giving the trucks something to haul both ways.

If the plan works as well as expected in New York there will probably be a demand for its extension to the whole country. There is apparently no reason why it should not be so extended.

It has been insisted that there is nothing new under the sun, but the Ohio State Journal mentions the fact that only a few years ago it would have been considered impossible for Turkey to get into company that would be bad for her morally.

England is cultivating 2,042,000 more acres in food crops this year than last, with 290,000 fewer men than were used last year. From this simple statement, it is not difficult to infer what English women are doing to win the war.

South Carolina's new senator has been made chairman of the national banks committee and a member of the appropriations committee. These are desirable assignments inasmuch as they keep him in close touch with plenty of finances.

## THE BIRTHDAY OF OUR SISTER REPUBLIC



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## A COURAGEOUS VETO.

It took moral courage of a high order for the president to veto the bill making the price of wheat \$2.40. We trust this action on the part of the executive will free congress from pressure to fix prices. Nothing could more subvert the character of our government and disorganize congress than for that body to be made the arbiter of prices of all commodities. The lobbying for rivers and harbors appropriations and other appropriations in the usual log rolling way would be increased a thousandfold. The growers of wheat, corn, cotton, tobacco and every other product of the soil, and also the producers of minerals and manufactured articles would besiege the law-making bodies of the nation, and pernicious influences would batter down the reserves of every member of congress at all subject to influence. In no way would the spirit of democracy be more assailed. Once we enter on such a program the descent of Avern is easy. It is to be hoped that the president's action means that price fixing is temporary, and as soon as the war is over it will no longer be resorted to by any department of the government. For it stands to reason that as long as a bureau of the government does fix prices congress will endeavor either by legislation or otherwise to influence that bureau.

## NEEDS OF DISTRICT FAIR.

Unless there is some prompt action by the city authorities or other civic bodies the Chattanooga District Fair association must face a most unusual and unfortunate situation this fall.

In response to the call from the government to aid in the stimulation of food production the fair association announced several months ago that its premium list would be very materially increased. This announcement, went direct to the county agricultural agents and the home economic workers throughout the Chattanooga district and has resulted in assurances that there will be many more exhibits from counties outside of Hamilton than there have been at any previous fair.

One of the buildings at Warner park which was last year used by the fair association for agricultural exhibits has since been converted into the loading and receiving station of the recently constructed roller coaster. This leaves the fair without a place to display the wares of the hundreds of exhibitors who are coming to this city from the country, and who will be greatly disappointed if suitable arrangements are not made for the display of the products which they have worked so earnestly to prepare.

The fair is not a stock company, and not one cent has ever been gained through its operations by any of the men who are connected with it. It is a company to promote the agricultural resources of the Chattanooga district, and as all of the property owners of this city are the gainers by reason of its existence, it should certainly receive such assistance as is necessary for its growth and development.

It is stated by officials of the fair association that its present financial condition will not warrant the construction of a new building without other assistance. The fair has made a little money each year. Even last year, despite the street car strike, something like \$300 was cleared. The profits each year have been put back into the enlargement of the institution. Three years ago the fair offered less than

\$1,200 in prizes; this year more than \$15,000. That statement alone is a good indication of how its money has been spent.

Aside from all other good which the fair has accomplished, this annual institution is responsible for bringing of thousands of people to Chattanooga once each year who might otherwise not come. It is broadening out the trade territory of Chattanooga, and each year causing more people throughout the country to regard Chattanooga as "their city."

The business interests of Nashville and Memphis annually give \$15,000 in cash to the fair held in each of these cities. The local association has never made a request for a cash donation and has succeeded in building up an institution which compares very favorably with the fairs of these other cities. Certainly it will be the least we can do to provide a building for the display of the agricultural products which have been raised to help win the war and for which special prizes have been offered by the local association.

## THIEVES UPON CHARITY.

Says the Memphis News-Scimitar: "It is now claimed that a number of very prominent New Yorkers, who have been very active in raising money for our charity after another connected with the war, have put millions of dollars into their own pockets. A hungry man who accepts a \$5 note for setting fire to a factory is a high-class gentleman as compared to these."

Our contemporary uses rather strong language, but the occasion seems to justify it. Several reports of the character above indicated have been sent out from the metropolis, some of which have been shown to be true. They manifest a form of robbery which is extremely reprehensible.

The war has brought burdens to everybody. It has appealed to everybody's sympathy and generosity. A thief who would take toll of the people's offerings in the manner indicated has much less to commend it than open assistance to the enemy. Paraphrasing the exchange quoted, we should pronounce a German spy "a high-class gentleman as compared to" such a miscreant.

The losses to contributor and intended beneficiary are not the only criminal feature of such transactions. They destroy public confidence in the integrity of charitable and relief organizations in a time of war or distress. They merit and should receive the severest sort of punishment.

The lesson for the public in these exposures is that they should only bestow their benefactions through channels recognized by the public authorities. But with these, as Mark Twain would say, they ought to "go the limit."

A little while ago Von Kuehlmann, the German foreign secretary, spoke to the reichstag, and said, "In view of the magnitude of the war and the number of powers, including those overseas (Americans) that are engaged, its end can hardly be expected through purely military success alone." It was this expression which led to the kaiser giving his "consent" for Von Kuehlmann to resign. The pan-Germans were certainly in the saddle again. But now comes Von Hertling and reiterates that the reply to the pope last year still expresses the German view.

Is this switching about merely designed for the deception of the allies? The enemy does not lack for camouflage artists.

## STATE POLITICS

(By T. J. Campbell.)

The event of the week in political circles was the inauguration of Gov. Rye's speaking campaign for the senatorial nomination, his first speech being delivered in Chattanooga Monday evening. The week has been spent in East Tennessee, the last appointment being at Dayton today. The governor has announced as his platform: "Win the war." With this, of course, everybody agrees, though some have been hard to complain that Gov. Rye is a very happy in some of the matters which he has chosen to stress as issues. Not many persons, who know him, believe that Maj. E. H. Stallman is a menace to the safety of the country, and probably fewer still believe that any great number of the newspapers which support Senator Shields are subsidized. Possibly Gov. Rye bases the latter implication on a statement made in a Chattanooga newspaper several months ago to the effect that Senator Shields had a generous campaign fund at his disposal. Some disappointment has resulted from the plan of campaign indicated above, because many persons think there are issues—real and legitimate—stated about a winning campaign might be waged against the senior senator.

On the other hand, Senator Shields' attitude toward the campaign is very peculiar to say the least of it. He has an active organization—one might almost say a well-oiled machine—at work in his behalf, and yet, so far as any public utterance is concerned, he has never declared that he wants to be elected again, stated any reason why he should be, or thanked the people for previous favors. This is rather strange, for it seems as if the senator might at least have issued some sort of statement, reviewing his work and indicating why he thought himself entitled to another term. This scribe is of opinion that the people would have appreciated some sort of an account of his stewardship. It is known that Senator Shields keeps in close touch with his managers and it is difficult to understand his aloofness from the people at a time when a war is being waged for democracy. It would be about as reasonable to interpret the adjournment of politics to signify that incumbents are to continue to hold their places without the formality of an election.

A prominent citizen of Chattanooga, who has recently spent some time at Washington, declares that he finds a well-established opinion among Tennesseans at the capital that Gov. Rye will be nominated. Washington is a sort of clearing house for political information at this time, and Tennesseeans who feel this way base their impressions upon reports coming to them from the different portions of the state. It may be said in this connection, however, that Senator Shields has appeared in public so little since his election to the senate that it is very difficult to estimate his personal popularity among the voters.

Austin Peay, one of the democratic candidates for governor, has published an appointment to begin a speaking tour of East Tennessee next Friday, July 19. It is not stated how many speeches will be made in this end of the state. Mr. Peay's advent will probably be followed with similar tips by Judge Robert H. Speiser and Shropshire, the other candidates. None of the three candidates is as yet very well known in East Tennessee.

After two or three weeks of maneuvering, a series of joint debates has been agreed on between Congressman Dick Austin and Hon. J. Will Taylor, candidates for the republican congressional nomination in the second district. The second debate, to be the only one in Tennessee to be favored with joint debates this year—over the primary nominations—though attempts were made to arrange such a series in both Fifth and Eighth districts. Mr. Austin, however, sends word that who will be unable to make the speeches have indicated in Mr. Austin's interest.

This column is in receipt of a memorandum and resolutions recently adopted by the Roane county bar protesting against the methods employed by Gen. A. J. Fletcher in his campaign for circuit judge against Hon. Sam Brown, the incumbent. In substantial effect, the friends of Judge Brown seem to regard some of the observations of Gen. Fletcher, in his signed advertisements, as in the nature of blows below the belt to using language. Gen. Fletcher's charges against Judge Brown cluster about some petulant remark or two of the latter while on the bench from which a deduction of want of judicial poise and personal unfitness is drawn. Few men who are acquainted with Judge Brown would be disposed to take such charge observations as seriously as does Gen. Fletcher, who, of course, has a personal interest to serve. On the other hand, it is possible that Judge Brown's friends are unnecessarily exercised by what might be termed the over-zealous electioneering methods of Gen. Fletcher. The two opposing candidates are well known in the territory of the circuit and the grievances of each are merely incidents of a contention which has another and altogether different basis. But back of every contest for nomination each wants the office and feels it necessary to offer some reason why he should be chosen.

## REV. SHAMBORGUER WILL DELIVER SPECIAL ADDRESS

Rev. N. D. Shamborger, pastor of Wiley Memorial church, (colored), will make a special address to his congregation Sunday morning at 11 o'clock on, "The South and the World War."

Rev. Shamborger requests all sect-leaders, who are to go to Camp July 18, to be present.

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